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Recommended Citation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Montana-based writers poetry anthology edited by H. G. Merriam now available" (1956). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 19.

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August 7, 1956

"For Me, for You," a collection of poems by Montana writers, compiled and edited by Dr. H. G. Merriam, Montana State University professor emeritus of English, has been published in Missoula and is now available at the University book store.

Dr. Merriam has gained a reputation throughout the Northwest for his work in discovering and fostering writing talent, according to Dr. Nan Carpenter, chairman of the MSU English Department.

In evaluating the poems selected for the collection, Dr. Merriam said, "I would be proud to match the poems against any similar collection in any state of the United States by a similar group of writers."

The poems were written by members of the writers' group of the Montana Institute of the Arts. All but a few were submitted in an M. I. A. project conducted by Dr. Merriam. Three are reprints from other publications.

The writers' group has been headed during 1955-56 by Lura Gaines of Big Fork. "Mrs. Gaines' steady pushing of the project has made possible this publication," Dr. Merriam said. Grace Davidson Baldwin of Whitefish headed the poets' division of the group, he added.

Although many of the writers represented in the collection have been published, they are not "professionals," Dr. Merriam pointed out. "They are all modest persons - everyday persons except they are exercising a talent," he said.

"Some lyricism of a fairly pure sort, a little symbolism, some of it fresh and even daring, much experimentation, a few bits of sharp satire, and a thrust or two into social feeling and thinking are found in the poetry," Dr. Merriam said.

Poets whose work appears in the anthology are: Grace Davidson Baldwin, Whitefish; Mabel Norris Bjork, Helena; Elsie C. Brammer, Flathead Lake; Mary Brennan Clapp, Missoula; Grace Stone Coates, Martinsdale; Harriette Cushman, Bozeman; Lura Gaines, Big Fork; Frieda Fligelman, Helena.

Bernice Jennison, Big Fork; Dorothy Johnson, Butte; Antoinette S. Jungster, Big Fork;
Don Manker, Broadus; Kit Cosgriff Miller, Bozeman; Norma Smith, Bozeman; Jo Stepanzoff,
Missoula; Lennea Ulmsted, Chinook; Millicent W. Whitt, Bozeman; Elnora A. Wright, Bozeman;
and Golda M. Zeits, Swan Lake.

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